

Message Text

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13 10

ACTION SSM-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 TRSE-00 ACDA-05 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 EUR-12

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R 190606Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5291

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4596

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY, XF

SUBJECT: SYRIAN REACTION TO SINAI ACCORD; GENEVA CONFERENCE

1. NOV. 18 PRESS PUBLISHED REPORT FROM TASS ACCUSING U.S. OF SUPPORTING ISRAEL AND OBSTRUCTING GENEVA CONFERENCE. FRONT PAGE ITEM REPORTED WHITE HOUSE DENIAL OF STORY THAT PRESIDENTS ASAD AND FORD WOULD MEET IN PARIS.

2. UNDER HEADLINE "NEW CONCESSIONS BY EGYPTIAN REGIME", AL-THAWRAH REPORTED THAT EGYPT WAS CONTINUING TO IMPLEMENT SECRET CLAUSES OF SINAI ACCORD, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO MAKING AVAILABLE FACILITES FOR AMERICAN COMPANIES. ACCORDING TO NEWS STORIES, AL-THAWRAH ASSERTED, NUMBER OF AMERICAN AND ZIONIST COMPANIES WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN PORT SAID FREE ZONE WITH MAIN OBJECTIVE OF REPACKAGING ISRAELI PRODUCTS AND EXPORTING THEM TO ARAB COUNTRIES UNDER FALSE LABELS.

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3. YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR PEKIC TOLD ME NOV. 18 THAT HE HAD RECENTLY DISCUSSED MATTER OF RECONVENING

GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH REGIONAL COMMAND MEMBER
GEORGE SADIQNI. SYRIANS, HE SAID, HOPED U.S. AND
USSR WOULD RESOLVE ISSUE OF PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION
IN PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS AND PRESENT THEIR CONCLUSIONS
TO PARTIES. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT CAREFUL WORK WOULD
BE REQUIRED BEFORE CONFERENCE COULD BE CONVENED,
AND SYRIANS REALIZED THIS. SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN RIFT
WOULD HAVE TO BE HEALED TO ASSURE ATTENDANCE OF
BOTH AND ALSO TO SECURE PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION
IN CONFERENCE. ONLY A UNIFIED ARAB POSITION COULD
BRING ABOUT PLO PARTICIPATION, HE SAID, INCLUDING
CONCESSIONS WHICH PLO WOULD BE FORCED TO MAKE TO
ISRAEL. PLO ON ITS OWN WAS UNABLE TO MAKE SUCH
DECISIONS OUT OF FEAR OF REPRESALS FROM THIS OR THAT
ARAB GROUP OR COUNTRY. PEKIC ALSO SAID HE THOUGHT
SYRIANS WERE MAKING MISTAKE IN NOT PUBLICIZING U.S.
DOCUMENT ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS
POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT.
PELLETREAU

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